

The LEAFLET



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America's Night Out Against Crime Back Cover

Check inside for the Fall 2010 Leisure Times

Part 2 in a continuing series

Tips from a Code Enforcement Officer: ~ Building Permits ~

Whether replacing a window or roof, remodeling your kitchen or bathroom, adding a new room or second story, virtually every homeowner at some point in time wants to make changes to their home. A building permit is required for most - but not all - construction activity. In addition to promoting quality construction and safety standards, the building permit process also promotes projects that are attractive, fit well within a neighborhood, and support high property values. We hope the following overview of the building permit process will assist you in making your construction project a reality. *(continued on page 4)*

For many projects, you may want a professional contractor to do the job for you. The Contractors' State License Board website www.cslb.ca.gov/consumers/beforehiring.asp offers hundreds of important tips – free of charge – for residents planning to hire a professional contractor.



Lake Forest Redevelopment Funds Raided by the State

It is no secret that the State of California has been struggling to balance its budget. But what may have slipped past your radar is that now the State is tapping local redevelopment agencies to help balance its books. You may have seen a headline or heard a sound bite, and it may or may not have seemed newsworthy, but it definitely is. *(continued on page 5)*

I Love My Lake Forest Park... Page 6

by Joanne Jameson

CITY MANAGER'S

Message

The Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget was recently approved and I am happy to report that we continue to live within our means and maintain excellent financial health. Like cities nationwide, however, we are continuing to feel the effects of

the economy. Despite the reality of having to do more with less, we were able to preserve all key services, maintaining our commitment to public safety, quality parks and recreation programs, and well-maintained streets. The budget also reflects the City's desire to provide new public amenities, such as a major sports park and recreation center, in response to community feedback.

A major factor in doing more with less is maximizing the talents of our staff and community. A perfect example of this was the recent annual Independence Day Parade. The Parade Committee volunteers did an outstanding job planning this fun-filled community event. Another great group is the Sheriff's Team of Active Retired Seniors (S.T.A.R.S.). Founded in 1997, this senior citizen volunteer program brings the resources of our community to assist Lake Forest Police Services. This commitment to participation and volunteerism has led to a healthy, connected community united by a common goal of making Lake Forest a better place for themselves and their neighbors.

Wondering how you can get involved? In this edition of The Leaflet, you'll find a number of opportunities, including signing up for the Leadership Academy (pg. 2), learning more about redevelopment activities in Lake Forest (cover story), and participating in America's Night Out Against Crime (back cover). In addition, you'll find other opportunities throughout our website at www.lakeforestca.gov – for instance, as a business owner, you can get involved with the Lake Forest Chamber of Commerce – there's something for everyone and we look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Robert C. Dunek

Robert C. Dunek,
City Manager

2010 Lake Forest Leadership Academy

"I would highly recommend this program to anyone who cares to know more about city operations and to feel a closer bond with the city and the staff."

– Donald Mah,
2009 Lake Forest Leadership Academy Graduate

What: 2010 Lake Forest Leadership Academy

Where: Lake Forest City Hall
Community Room A
25550 Commercentre Drive

When: Wednesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
September 15, 2010 through
November 3, 2010 (8 sessions)

Fee: This in-depth seminar is FREE and includes a light dinner at the beginning of each session

Who: We encourage applicants from all segments of the community to participate. The ideal Leadership Academy will include individuals with varied educational and cultural backgrounds, who live in various areas of Lake Forest.

The City of Lake Forest faces many exciting opportunities and significant challenges in the years ahead. To enhance community input and involvement, the City has designed the Lake Forest Leadership Academy to prepare you to take part in shaping our community and keeping our city strong. The Academy is limited to 20 participants over the age of 18, selected on a first come, first serve basis. To sign up, contact Debra Rose, Director of Management Services, at 461-3414 or at drose@lakeforestca.gov, or stop by City Hall.

Upcoming City Council Meeting Dates

City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 p.m.

- Tuesday, July 20
- Tuesday, August 3
- Tuesday, August 17
- Tuesday, September 7

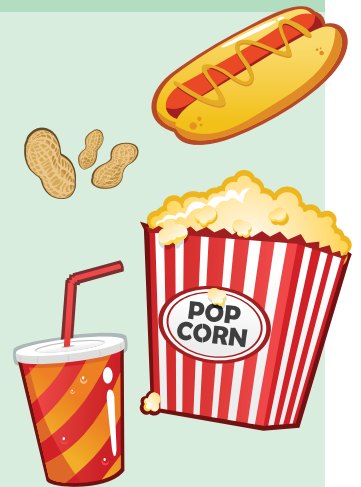
Capital Improvement Projects Update: Get Ready for New Adventures at El Toro Park

There's nothing like discovering, or re-discovering, a great local park. And this summer, El Toro Park will become even greater! The El Toro Park renovation project includes installation of new play equipment, shade structures, rubber surfacing, drainage improvements, new furnishings, new concrete paving, and new landscaping. In addition, new outdoor exercise equipment will replace the existing handball courts. The project is anticipated to be completed by October 2010 – just in time for a fall picnic.



Get Your Hot Dogs, Popcorn, and Peanuts at Heroes Park!

Picture this...it's a gorgeous fall day in Lake Forest, you're hanging out at Heroes Park catching a ball game with a hot dog in one hand and a cool drink in the other. Could there be anything better? Thanks to the Heroes Park Snack Bar and Restroom Building project, this picture of perfection will be reality in just a few months. The project kicked off this summer and includes construction of a concession building and restroom facilities. The concession portion of the building will include typical kitchen equipment to allow sports user groups to prepare and sell food. The facility will also include an outdoor patio. The project is anticipated to be completed by October 2010. Watch for details announcing a dedication event as construction nears completion. Like all of our park enhancements, these projects were designed based on input from our residents and sports groups.



Looking for a Pet? Visit Lake Forest Pet of the Week!

www.lakeforestca.gov/pet_of_the_week

Visit the City's website to meet the Lake Forest "Pet of the Week!" The "Pet of the Week" is a joint effort between the City and OC Animal Care to find a forever home for adoptable Lake Forest animals. A new pet is featured each week, along with an update on the adoption status of the previous Pet of the Week.

Last year there were over 11,000 successful adoptions of dogs, cats and other animals from OC Animal Care. Visit www.ocpetinfo.com for more available animals that are in need of warm and loving homes. For more information, contact OC Animal Care at 249-5160 or visit them at ocgov.com.



Tips from a Code Enforcement Officer: Building Permits and Swimming Pools (Part 2 in a continuing series)

The process to obtain a building permit follows several basic steps.

1. Confirm you need a permit. You can call the City's Building Permit Technician at 461-3550 to determine if your project needs a permit.
2. Draw a plan showing your project (a good idea even if you don't need a permit) and bring it in to share with the Building Permit Technician or Building Official. For a small- to medium-sized project, start out simple (i.e., hand-drawn plan); we'll let you know if something more needs to be done to make your plans suitable for processing.
3. After your plans are reviewed and determined to be complete and "to code," they will be approved, a building permit will be issued, and work can begin!

At specified stages during construction, you will need to call the City and request inspections. A building inspector will come out and verify that you (or your contractor) are following proper construction practices, ensuring your (and your neighbors') protection and safety. When you are finished with your project, the inspector will provide a final inspection that certifies completion of the job.

We do our best to make the process quick and simple. Working without a building permit when one is required is illegal and can pose serious complications for your fire and homeowner's insurance or for you when you try to sell your home. Now, go have a "constructive" summer!

Next in the Series:

Navigating the City's new Sign Code

Keep Your Lawn Green and the Storm Drain Clean!

Summer is here and that means it's time to spruce up the lawn and garden and enjoy the great outdoors. However, poorly applied fertilizers, pesticides and improper gardening practices can lead to pollution of our creeks, lakes, and beaches. Here are some environmentally friendly tips to follow to eliminate or reduce pollution caused by gardening activities:

1. Do not over water – in addition to wasting money and precious water resources, runoff can carry pollutants into the storm drain system which flows directly to the creeks and ocean without treatment. Reduce your sprinkler cycle length and increase the number of shorter cycles. Use irrigation practices such as efficient sprinkler heads, drip irrigation, soaker hoses or micro spray systems. Regularly inspect and repair leaks and misdirected sprinklers. **Remember, it's best to water early in the day or evening to reduce water loss from evaporation and winds.**
2. Do not rake or blow leaves, clippings, or pruning waste into the street, gutter or storm drains. Instead, dispose of waste by composting or as green waste through our City's solid waste program. Sweep granular fertilizers/pesticides off hard surfaces back into the lawn or flowerbed. Otherwise, fertilizer/pesticides left on a concrete surface may be washed off into storm drains. **Remember, putting any type of litter into the gutter or street is a violation of the City's Municipal Code and considered a misdemeanor.**
3. Consider mulch and organic fertilizers whenever possible. Mulching preserves soil moisture and reduces irrigation needs, suppresses weed growth, prevents erosion, and is aesthetically appealing.



Remember, the Ocean Begins At Your Front Door.

24-Hour Water Pollution Hotline
(877) 89-SPILL

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 461-3480.

Lake Forest Redevelopment Funds Raided by the State

(continued from cover page)

As a result of a bill passed in July 2009, the State of California seized \$1.2 million from the Lake Forest Redevelopment Agency. Got your attention? That's \$1.2 million that came from a portion of the property taxes generated by the properties located in the Redevelopment Project Area in Lake Forest that should have been used by our community for our community.

So, what exactly is redevelopment?

Redevelopment revitalizes and improves infrastructure and properties within the redevelopment area. Redevelopment in Lake Forest is overseen by the Redevelopment Agency (RDA), a legally separate and distinct organization of the City. The City Council acts as the Agency's Board of Directors and public meetings of the RDA are included as part of the regular City Council meetings.

What does this mean for me and for my city?

As a result of the same legislation requiring the initial payment, in 2011, the City is required to make another payment of \$248,786. Due to these redevelopment raids, there are fewer funds available to put towards important redevelopment projects and to advance economic revitalization. To address future challenges to redevelopment funding and other local government revenues, volunteers throughout the state collected over 1.1 million signatures to qualify a ballot initiative titled "Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act" for the November 2010 State ballot. For more information on the initiative, check out the California Redevelopment Association's website at <http://www.calredevelop.org/>.

Despite having to make these unexpected payments, the City and Agency remain on solid financial ground and will continue to pursue projects that benefit the Project Area and improve the community. For more on redevelopment and the Lake Forest Redevelopment Agency, visit us online at www.lakeforestca.gov/TheArbor.



Redevelopment in Action in Lake Forest



El Toro Road Landscape and Improvement Project

- Remedied traffic congestion
- Beautified the roadway
- Enhanced the pedestrian orientation of the corridor
- Encouraged private property owners to reinvest in the area
- Resulted in the creation of the "Arbor on El Toro"

The Orchard and Home Depot Shopping Centers

- Transformed dated and dysfunctional properties into new shopping centers
- Provided additional retail, dining, and service options to local residents
- Provided a regional attraction and community focal point

Community Improvements

- New traffic signals and storm drains
- Development of a community room at the El Toro Library

Potential Upcoming Projects

- Parking lot and remodel of the El Toro Branch Library
- Landscape and street improvements on Jeronimo Road, Rockfield Blvd., and El Toro Road



I Love My Lake Forest Park – Pittsford Park

By Joanne Jameson

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

WOW! 27 parks in Lake Forest! My all-time favorite that I am highlighting today is Pittsford Park, on Pittsford Dr., north of Trabuco Rd., between Lake Forest Dr. & El Toro Rd. A great location, nestled in a quiet, residential neighborhood.

My park offers BBQ's, playgrounds, fitness/walking trails, picnic tables, a covered gazebo you can reserve, lighted tennis courts and restrooms. There are tons of shade trees, you can sit and relax upon a hill, take a nature walk, or walk your pet.

Best of all, parks make life better for you and your family. Free recreation for everyone! Grab your bikes, balls, Frisbees, games, skates, kites, blankets, chairs, coolers, picnics, or a book to read. Enjoy fresh air, vitamin D from the sun, exercise, fun, and have a great outing with your family and friends.

What better way to unite families and friends and build community spirit than the Annual Summer Concerts. Whether you are 1 or 101, you can dance, sing along, or just enjoy the music. Refreshments are available for purchase during these concerts. Attend this terrific summertime tradition right in your neighborhood! Where else can you go for "free" to hear the Pacific Symphony perform pop, classical & patriotic tunes!

Don't miss out on this park or the other 26 parks in Lake Forest. Get out there, explore, and bring the family and friends for a fun-filled day right in your own backyard. I know I'll be there, will YOU??

Thanks Joanne for sharing and we hope you enjoy your goodie basket! If you'd like to share why you love your Lake Forest park, submit an article of 250 words or less and it could be featured in an upcoming issue for all to see. Selected authors will receive a goodie basket filled with all sorts of park-worthy treats! Entries can be dropped off at City Hall or emailed to ParksMakeLifeBetter@lakeforestca.gov. For more information, call 461-3544. See you at the park!



Citizens Helping Citizens in Crisis



Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc. (TIP) is looking for caring people who would like to be part of a team of citizen volunteers trained to provide emotional and practical support to the victims of traumatic events. No experience is necessary. For more information, or to register, call 949-337-3610, email TiplncCEO@aol.com, or visit TIP online at www.TIPOrangeCounty.org/volunteerregistration.htm.

Summer 2010 Training Schedule

Thursday, August 19	6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, August 20	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, August 21	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 22	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 24	6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 26	6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, August 27	6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, August 28	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
August 29 – November 30	Field Training
Tuesday, December 7	7:00 p.m. – Graduation

Fair Housing Opportunity is the Law



The City of Lake Forest is committed to furthering fair housing practices in the community. If you or someone you know has a fair housing question or issue that needs to be addressed, please call the City's Housing Manager at 461-3471. The City cooperates with the Fair Housing Council of Orange County to eliminate discriminatory practices countywide. An impediment to fair housing opportunity is any policy or practice that denies or adversely affects the provision of housing to a person in any protected class.

Recreation/Events Calendar

Summer 2010 (July, August, September)

JULY

Band Nights at the Skatepark 16

6 p.m.-10 p.m.
Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: \$5 donation per person



Family Swim/Dive-In Movie

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. (Reggae Music)
8 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
(Kung Fu Panda Movie)
Trabuco Hills High School
(27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo)
Fee: \$1 per person

Family Campout 17-18

5:30 p.m.-10:00 a.m.
Pittsford Park (21701 Pittsford Dr)
Fee: \$5 per person
Pre-register by mail or in person

Riverbed Clean-Up and Environmental Awareness Day 24

9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: Free. Food, drink, and opportunity prize ticket included with participation in clean-up



Expression Session Tile Fundraiser 2010

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: \$50 per tile. All necessary tile design materials provided



Summer Concert Series: 25

Rita Coolidge and Special Guest Kina Grannis
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Pittsford Park (21701 Pittsford Dr)
Fee: Free. Refreshments available for purchase

Family Swim/Dive-In Movie 30

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. (Calypso Music)
8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (Shark Tale Movie)
Trabuco Hills High School
(27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo)
Fee: \$1 per person



AUGUST

Blues & BBQ 1

3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Lake Forest Nature Park
(26215 Dimension Dr)
Fee: Free. BBQ food and refreshments available for a nominal fee



Family Swim/Dive-In Movie 6

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. (Steel Drum Music)
8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (Free Willy: Escape From Pirate's Cove Movie)
Trabuco Hills High School
(27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo)
Fee: \$1 per person



Band Nights at the Skatepark 13

6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: \$5 donation per person



Family Swim~Featuring Calypso Music

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Trabuco Hills High School
(27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo)
Fee: \$1 per person



Movies in the Park~Monsters vs. Aliens

7:30 pm
Mountain View Park (4061 Dylan St)
Fee: Free. Snacks available for a nominal fee

BMX Summer Skatepark Campout 14-15

10 p.m. - 9 a.m.
Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: \$45 per person. Dinner, breakfast and snacks included

Summer Concert Series: 15 End of Summer Spectacular ~ Pacific Symphony

5:30 p.m. Musical Playground
7 p.m. Symphony Performance
Pittsford Park
(21701 Pittsford Dr)
Fee: Free. Refreshments available for purchase



AUGUST

Family Swim ~ Featuring Reggae Music 20

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Trabuco Hills High School
(27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo)
Fee: \$1 per person



Movies in the Park~Pocahontas

7:30 p.m., Rimgate Park
(29772 Rimgate)
Fee: Free. Snacks available for a nominal fee



Seventh Annual Slalom Race 21

6 p.m.
Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: \$15 entry fee per person



SEPTEMBER

Skate-fest Summer Campout 3-4

10 p.m. - 9 a.m.
Etnies Skatepark
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)
Fee: \$45 per person. Dinner, breakfast, and snacks included



"The Lounge" Teen Program 13

Re-opens for the 2010/11 School Year, 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Lake Forest Community Center
(25550 Commercentre Dr)
Fee: \$25 per year
(Pre-registration is required for this program.)



Check your mailbox for your Fall Leisure Times at the end of July. Register for Fall classes and programs beginning **Tuesday, August 17!**

For more info call Community Services at 461-3450.



City of Lake Forest
25550 Commercentre Drive
Lake Forest, CA 92630

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LAKE FOREST, CA

Postal Customer
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Important City Telephone Numbers



OC Animal Care 249-5160
Building Division 461-3470
Building Inspection. . . . 461-3468
City Clerk 461-3420
City Council 461-3420
City Manager's Office . . . 461-3410
Community
Policing Center 461-3530
Employment Hotline . . . 461-3418
Etnies Skatepark 916-5870
Graffiti Hotline 461-3583
Planning 461-3491
Public Works 461-3480
Recreation 461-3450
Redevelopment 461-3567

IMPORTANT CITY WEBSITES

City
www.lakeforestca.gov
Economic Development
www.lakeforestbusiness.com
Lake Forest Redevelopment Agency
www.thearbor.info
Etnies Skatepark of Lake Forest
www.etniesskateparkoflakeforest.com



The Leaflet is published by the City of Lake Forest and is distributed as a public service to the homes and businesses of the city. The City of Lake Forest welcomes your comments, suggestions and questions regarding The Leaflet. Please call or write:

Editor, The Leaflet
City of Lake Forest
25550 Commercentre Drive
Lake Forest, CA 92630
461-3400



www.lakeforestca.gov

"EXPAND THE FOREST"

The Expand the Forest program allows members of the community to dedicate trees in memory of departed loved ones or to commemorate special occasions while encouraging the expansion of our urban forest. Trees are \$70 and are planted and maintained by the City. There are eight different species of approved trees which may be planted in almost any public property location, including City parks and green belts.



For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 461-3480.

SPONSORS	TREE SPECIES	LOCATION	DEDICATION
Olive, Kent, Steve, Doug and Brian Fitzgerald	Coast Live Oak	Borrego Park	In Memory of Patrick J. Fitzgerald from his Loving Wife Olive and Sons Kent, Steve, Doug and Brian
Rick and Mary Ann Zoss	Magnolia Tree	Peachwood Park	In Loving Memory of Our Friend Steve Mitrick
Will and Kathi Decker	Magnolia Tree	Peachwood Park	In Memory of My Mother, Mary A. Decker
Madiba, Inc.	Magnolia Tree	Tamarisk Park	By Madiba, Inc.
Vikki Salazar	California Sycamore	Borrego Park	Tom Salazar, Sr., "I Miss You" 1953-2009
Art and Joan Buescher	Coast Live Oak	Borrego Park	In Memory of Ronald Paul Henning
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Tsang	California Sycamore	Foothill Ranch Comm. Park	In Loving Memory of Blanche Sievert
Amigos de la Colina Docent Organization	Ginko Biloba	Pittsford Park	For Priscilla Hoel
Husband – Ellis Delameter and Son – Trent Delameter	Magnolia Tree (2)	Tamarisk Park	"Wife and Mother, Marilyn Delameter"

America's Night Out Against Crime

Tuesday, August 3, 2010 • 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Pittsford Park (21701 Pittsford Drive)

National Night Out is a unique event designed to

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



Please join us for this fun-filled, family-friendly evening. There will be emergency vehicles to check out, live entertainment, and free food. For more information, contact Melisa Cavazos, Crime Prevention Specialist, at 461-3546.